DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 145 747 HE 009 324

TITLE	Upper-Level Institutions and Off-Campus Educational Units of Texas Public Universities. CB Study Paper 26.
INSTITUTION	Texas Coll. and Univ. System, Austin. Coordinating Board.
PUB DATE	Mar 77
NOTE	81p.
AVAILABLE FROM	Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System, P.O. Box 12788, Capitol Station, Austin, TX 78711
EDRS PRICE	MF-$0.83 HC-$4.67 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	Administrative Organization; Educational Facilities; Educational Finance; Enrollment; *Extension Education; *External Degree Programs; Higher Education; *Off Campus Facilities; Planning; Special Programs; State Action; State Boards of Education; State Universities; Statewide Planning; Statistical Data; Tables (Data); *University Extension; *Upper Division Colleges
IDENTIFIERS	*Texas

ABSTRACT

In 1975 the coordinating board undertook a study of upper-level institutions, upper-level centers, and extension program study centers at public institutions. The final report explains these elements of the three kinds of institution: background, organization, enrollment and academic programs, special programs, facilities, comparable educational resources in the area, future plans, funding considerations, and conclusions. In the case of off-campus programs, each program is analyzed, and recommendations are made for the overall system and its components. Extensive statistical data are included. (MSE)

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Upper-Level Institutions And Off-Campus Educational Units of Texas Public Universities

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Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System
Austin, Texas • March 1977

HE 009 324

Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System
LBJ Building, P. O. Box 12788, Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711

March 1977

Foreword

In 1975 the Coordinating Board prepared a restudy of Texas higher education for the 64th Legislature. The report included a recommendation that the use of and need for existing upper-level institutions and other new Texas colleges be reassessed prior to the 1977 session of the Legislature. This study paper is an outgrowth of that proposal.

It reviews the operations of four general types of institutions of higher education: upper-level universities, upper-level centers and extension centers, satellite units and the University of Houston Downtown College.

The Board in December 1976 authorized publication of the report as a study paper. Through the Study Paper Series, results of education research projects undertaken by or for the Board are made available to the Texas academic community, government officials and interested citizens.

The Coordinating Board and its staff express appreciation to institutional representatives and others who contributed to this study.

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Coordinating Board Recommendations

The Coordinating Board in 1975 directed its staff to undertake a study of upper-level institutions, centers and extension program study centers at public universities. This publication is the result of that study and provided the basis for the six recommendations appearing below which were adopted by the Board at its December 3, 1976, meeting.

As endorsed by the Coordinating Board, the recommendations state:

RECOMMENDATION #1:

> That there be no change in the previous position of the Coordinating Board adopted in January 1975, which states: "No existing upper-level institution be authorized to convert to a four-year institution; and that no combination of upper-level institutions, branches or centers with community colleges, be permitted to establish four-year institutions."

Recommendation #2:

> That course offerings at the upper-level institutions be concentrated in those academic areas for which the greatest student demand exists and for which legitimate response to government, business, industry, and education is indicated. At present these appear to be liberal arts, teacher education and business administration in the majority of cases. Limited resources should not be diluted by offering a large number of courses, degree programs, and services in other areas by an upper-level institution, until it develops a strong student base.

RECOMMENDATION #3:

That other institutions be discouraged from offering off-campus courses within a 50-mile radius of the upper-level institutions which have not established a strong student base if those upper-level institutions are capable of providing the same service.

RECOMMENDATION #4:

That the Coordinating Board develop and implement rules and regulations for upper-level centers and off-campus educational units of public universities which will:

a. Define the different categories of off-campus educational units.

b. Set forth minimum criteria for the classification and continued operation of off-campus units in each category.

c. Determine minimum requirements and procedures for the establishment and reclassification of off-campus educational units of higher education for each category.

RECOMMENDATION #5:

That the establishment of any additional institutions or off-campus educational units of higher education be in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Coordinating Board.

RECOMMENDATION #6:

That pending the development of rules and regulations for their operation, there be no significant change in the role, manner of operation, and administrative structure of educational centers covered in this report, or of similar educational units which may be under the administration of state senior colleges and universities.

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Overview

Between 1969 and 1973 the Texas Legislature and the Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System established ten upper-level institutions and centers. These were authorized to offer college level junior, senior and graduate degree courses in certain geographic areas of substantial population to junior college graduates and others who had completed at least two years of college work.

The restudy of Texas Higher Education 1968-1980, A Report to the 64th Texas Legislature, January, 1975, contained a recommendation that:

> The Coordinating Board should within the next two years assess the utilization of and need for upper-level centers and report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the Regular Session of the Texas Legislature 1977.

One purpose of this study is to provide data for use in implementing this recommendation. It is also designed to provide a basis for recommendations for developing Coordinating Board positions and policies relating to the operation of off-campus educational units.

This study consists of four separate parts. The first is concerned with the separate upper-level institutions which were established by legislative authority and located on individual campuses. These are The University of Texas at Dallas, The University of Texas of the Permian Basin, Texas A&I University at Corpus Christi, the University of Houston at Clear Lake City, and Texas Eastern University.

The second part deals with the off-campus educational units which are located on the campuses of two-year institutions. These are Texas A&I University at Laredo, East Texas State University Center at Texarkana, University of Houston Victoria Center, Pan American University Brownsville Extension Center, and Sul Ross State University Uvalde Extension Center.

The third part deals with other off-campus educational units of state universities. These include the Texas Tech University Junction Annex Operation, the Lamar University Orange Center, the Lamar University Port Arthur Center, the Lamar University Amelia Campus, and off-campus centers in Dallas operated by North Texas State University and East Texas State University. Brief reference is also made to resident instructional activity that takes place at locations which are established primarily to serve a special purpose such as nursing education or research and extension (non-credit) activities.

The fourth part deals with the University of Houston Downtown College.

UPPER-LEVEL INSTITUTIONS

The University of Texas at Dallas (UT-Dallas)
The University of Texas of the Permian Basin (UT-Permian Basin)
Texas A&I University at Corpus Christi (Texas A&I-Corpus Christi)
University of Houston at Clear Lake City (UH-Clear Lake City)
Texas Eastern University (TEU)

Background and Summary

The Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System, in 1968 recommended to the Texas Legislature the authorization of four free-standing public upper-level senior institutions, one each in the Midland-Odessa, Houston, Corpus Christi, and Dallas metropolitan areas. Two of these recommendations were acted on by the 61st Legislature, Regular Session in 1969, with the establishment of The University of Texas at Dallas (HB 303) and The University of Texas of the Permian Basin (HB 157). Two more of the recommendations were acted on by the 62nd Legislature, Regular Session in 1971, with the establishment of Texas A&I University at Corpus Christi (HB 275) and the University of Houston at Clear Lake City (HB 199). The 62nd Legislature, Regular Session in 1971, also established Tyler State College (since redesignated as Texas Eastern University) as a free-standing upper-level institution (SB 419), this action being based on a recommendation of the Coordinating Board in April, 1971.

In addition to the upper-level senior institution in the Houston area recommended by the Coordinating Board in 1968, the Board recommended an additional campus of the University of Houston to be located in the Houston metropolitan area primarily as an institution serving commuter students and

offering programs from the freshman year through the master's degree. Since 1968, major questions have been raised regarding the need for such an additional institution, its specific location within the Houston area, an appropriate date for its establishment, and whether it should be a four-year or upper-level institution. Because it is essential that this topic receive the most careful consideration, all questions related to the proposed new institution for the Houston area will be dealt with in a separate study.

A summary of background data for the five separate upper-level institutions is provided in Table 1. Some of the basic characteristics regarding the operation of these upper-level institutions are:

- They operate as separate, degree-granting universities, authorized to offer only junior, senior, and graduate level programs.
- None has been in full operation for more than three years.
- They are organized with a complete, well defined internal administrative structure, and either now have or are in the process of obtaining permanent campus facilities.
- They receive appropriations from the Texas Legislature as individually designated agencies.
- They are geographically located in the proximity of two-year colleges with a combined enrollment (fall 1975) of approximately 10,000 or greater.
- Fall 1975 headcount enrollment ranged from 1,215 to 3,333.
- They are primarily commuter institutions. Students enrolled at these institutions are, on the average, taking fewer semester hours of work than the norm for all senior institutions.
- Business administration, teacher education and liberal arts courses account for nearly all semester credit hours, except for UT-Dallas, where science enrollment is high.
- Operating budgets (less construction and sponsored research) for FY 76 range from $3.5 million to $11.6 million.

The remainder of this part addresses organization and operation, enrollment and academic programs, off-campus activity and special programs, facilities, comparable educational resources in the area, financial considerations, future plans for the separate upper-level institutions. The conclusions reached in this part are stated below:

1. All available evidence confirms the validity of the position unanimously adopted in January, 1975 by the Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System that: "No existing upper-level institutions be authorized to convert to a four-year institution; and that no combination of upper-level institutions, branches or centers with community colleges, be permitted to establish a four-year institution."

2. Enrollment at some of the upper-level institutions is still marginal in terms of economic effectiveness. However, the capital investment and commitment to the community have progressed to the point that some additional trial period is justified, especially in view of the relatively short period of operation. Efforts should be concentrated upon building upon such strengths as have already been established in order to improve the enrollment posture. This could be enhanced by eliminating, as much as possible, the competition provided by other institutions offering off-campus courses near the upper-level institutions. Expansion of program and course offerings should be closely controlled.

UPPER-LEVEL INSTITUTIONS
Table 1

INSTITUTION	AUTHORITY AND DATE	DEGREE LEVEL	FALL HEADCOUNT ENROLLMENT 70	71	72	73	74	75	UNDER-GRAD/ GRADUATE RATIO FALL 75	SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS AND % BY PROGRAMS FY 75
The University of Texas at Dallas	Legislature 1969	Bachelor (#1) Master Doctorate	45	70	157	382	700	3,333	U-grad 55% Grad 45%	Total: 10,835 (#2) Liberal Arts 12.4% Science 35.3% Teacher Ed 13.0% Engineering 2.2% Business Adm 37.1%
The University of Texas of the Permian Basin	Legislature 1969	Bachelor Master				1,112	1,352	1,432	U-grad 67% Grad 33%	Total: 32,852 Liberal Arts 35.6% Science 7.5% Fine Arts 4.4% Teacher Ed 24.8% Engineering 3.9% Business Adm 23.8%
University of Houston at Clear Lake City	Legislature 1971	Bachelor Master					1,069	2,621	U-grad 41% Grad 59%	Total: 21,677 Liberal Arts 40.1% Teacher Ed 24.5% Engr/Techn 2.1% Business Adm 31.7% Other (#3) 1.6%
Texas A&I University at Corpus Christi	Legislature 1971	Bachelor Master				969	1,603	1,966	U-Grad 57% Grad 43%	Total: 38,962 Liberal Arts 30.7% Science 5.7% Fine Arts 5.0% Teacher Ed 36.3% Business Adm 20.2% Other (#4) 2.1%
Texas Eastern University, Tyler	Legislature 1971	Bachelor Master				507 (#5)	874	1,215	U-grad 69% Grad 31%	Total: 23,709 Liberal Arts 35.1% Science 3.7% Fine Arts 4.0% Teacher Ed 39.6% Business Adm 17.4% Voc/Techn 0.2%

NOTES: (#1) Approved for fall 75; (#2) Graduate hours only; see also footnote (1); (#3) Science, Fine Arts, Library Science; (#4) Social Service, Physical Training, Nursing; (#5) 176 students enrolled Spring

Organization and Operation

All five of the upper-level institutions operate as separate and distinct universities headed by a president (or chancellor in the case of UH-Clear Lake City) and controlled by a designated governing board as follows:

Board of Regents of The University of Texas System
(UT-Dallas and UT-Permian Basin)

Board of Directors of the Texas A&I University System
(Texas A&I-Corpus Christi)

Board of Regents of the University of Houston
(UH-Clear Lake City)

Board of Regents of Texas Eastern University
(TEU)

Each institution operates its own administrative structure, which is functionally organized to provide general administration, business and fiscal administration, physical plant operation, library service, purchasing and stores, student services and security. Academic affairs are under the direction of an academic vice president (or vice chancellor). Deans head the major colleges or schools: three for UH-Clear Lake City and UT-Permian Basin; four for Texas A&I-Corpus Christi; five (one-half time each) for TEU; and six for UT-Dallas.

The number of full-time budgeted faculty and staff employees for fiscal year 1976 for each institution is:

	FTE STAFF EMPLOYEES	FTE FACULTY (9 MONTHS)
*UT-Dallas	351.25	288.05
UT-Permian Basin	153.26	91.14
Texas A&I-Corpus Christi	142.82	80.75
UH-Clear Lake City	168.00	126.75
TEU	76.54	65.00
Totals	891.87	651.69

*Does not include 64.42 research related employees whose salaries are from contract funds.

Enrollment and Academic Programs

These five upper-level institutions are geographically located in the proximity of public two-year colleges with relatively large aggregrate enrollments in full semester length academic courses (Table 2). UT-Permian Basin does not have as large a two-year college student base as the others, but it also attracts students from the larger metropolitan areas.

The sources of the majority of students for all of these upper-level institutions, however, are the counties of location of the institution and two-year feeder colleges or contiguous counties (Table 3).

Table 2

Upper-Level Institution	Feeder Public Two-Year Colleges	Headcount Enrollment Fall 75	FTE Students in Academic Courses Fall 75	Degrees Awarded FY 75
UT-Dallas	Dallas Co. Comm. Col.	48,101	16,362	1,293
UT-Permian Basin	Howard College	1,631	630	110
	Midland College	2,865	824	33
	Odessa College	4,611	1,657	174
	Total	9,107	3,111	317
Texas A&I-Corpus Christi	Bee County College	2,443	996	162
	Del Mar College	11,661	3,382	774
	Total	14,104	4,378	936
UH-Clear Lake City	Alvin Comm. College	3,189	884	173
	Brazosport College	3,695	1,064	177
	Col. of Mainland	5,209	842	120
	Galveston College	1,941	857	166
	Houston Comm. Col.	19,517	3,048	171
	N. Harris Co. College	4,257	619	14
	Lee College	5,157	1,506	285
	San Jacinto College	11,523	4,465	542
	Total	54,488	13,285	1,648
TEU	Tyler Jr. College	6,189	3,644	739
	Henderson Co.Jr. Col.	2,105	1,190	126
	Kilgore College	3,881	2,128	469
	Panola Jr. College	918	435	38
	Navarro Jr. College	1,880	897	184
	Total	14,973	8,294	1,556

Table 3

Upper-Level Institution	Source of Students by County; With Percent of Total Institution Enrollment, Fall, 1975	
UT-Dallas	*Dallas	85%
	Collin	10%
	Tarrant, Denton, Grayson	2%
UT-Permian Basin	*Ector	55%
	Midland	24%
	Howard, Andrews, Ward, Pecos, Winkler	12%
Texas A&I-Corpus Christi	*Nueces	85%
	San Patricio	7%
	Aransas, Kleberg, Bee, Jim Wells, Cameron	5%
UH-Clear Lake City	*Harris	66%
	Galveston	23%
	Brazoria	10%
TEU	*Smith	60%
	Gregg	12%
	Cherokee, Anderson, Van Zandt, Upshur, Rusk, Wood, Henderson	25%

*Upper-level institution location.

Headcount enrollment increased at a rate greater than the statewide average at all of these institutions during the past two to three years. The most dramatic increase was for the fall 1975 enrollment at UT-Dallas, attributable to the initiation of undergraduate enrollment which added 1,838 new students. Texas A&I-Corpus Christi, UH-Clear Lake City and TEU have all shown better than 100 percent enrollment increases since the first year. Rate of enrollment increase at UT-Permian Basin has been 28 percent during the past two years.

Students enrolled at these institutions are, on the average, taking fewer semester hours of work than the norm for all senior institutions, primarily because they serve commuter, not resident, students (Table 4).

The predominance of semester credit hours is heavily in favor of undergraduate courses.

Table 4

	Average Semester Credit Hours Per Student, Fall 75	
	Undergraduate	Graduate
UT-Dallas	11.03	5.98
UT-Permian Basin	11.82	3.89
Texas A&I-Corpus Christi	11.65	4.26
UH-Clear Lake City	11.25	4.44
TEU	10.96	3.90
All Texas Public Senior Institutions	13.60	6.54

The University of Texas at Dallas

Academic courses offered at The University of Texas at Dallas lead to bachelor's degrees in the liberal arts, fine arts, humanities, social sciences, behavorial sciences, natural and mathematical sciences, general studies, and business and public administration. Master's degrees are offered in the natural and mathematical sciences, management and administrative sciences, international management studies, political economy, interdisciplinary studies, human development, special education, and the humanities. Additionally the institution offers master of arts in teaching degrees in the natural and mathematical sciences, human development, and the humanities. Doctoral degrees are offered in the natural and mathematical sciences, humanities, communication disorders, management science, and international management studies.

The two largest producers of graduate semester credit hours during fiscal year 1975 were business administration and science; however, undergraduate courses were not offered. Based on fall semester 1975 enrollments the indications are that undergraduate semester credit hours will be heavy in liberal arts (54%) and business administration (25%) with the remainder about evenly divided among science, fine arts and teacher education.

The University of Texas of the Permian Basin

UT-Permian Basin offers bachelor's degrees in liberal and fine arts and humanities, social and behavorial sciences, natural sciences, engineering, and management. Master's degrees are offered in history, literature, pedagogical studies, physical education and health, behavorial science, engineering, life sciences, and business administration. The largest production of semester credit hours in fiscal year 1975 was in liberal arts. Teacher education and business administration were the next largest areas. This relationship generally held for the fall semester 1975.

University of Houston at Clear Lake City

UH-Clear Lake City offers bachelor's and master's degrees in the areas of sciences and technology, management, public affairs, education, human sciences, languages, and literature. Bachelor's degrees only are offered in fine and recreational arts and general studies. During fiscal year 1975 the largest production of semester credit hours was in liberal arts. This was followed by business administration and teacher education, which were about evenly divided between undergraduate and graduate. These relationships generally held for the fall semester 1975 enrollment.

Texas A&I University at Corpus Christi

Texas A&I-Corpus Christi offers bachelor's degrees in liberal and fine arts and humanities, science and technology, education, and business administration. Master's degrees are offered in English, history, interdisciplinary studies, biology, mathematics, education, and management. Teacher education was the largest producer of semester credit hours in fiscal year 1975, about evenly split between undergraduate and graduate. Liberal arts and business administration were the other major areas. For fall semester 1975 there was a slight increase in business administration and a corresponding decline in teacher education.

Texas Eastern University

TEU offers bachelor's and master's degrees in education, psychology, and business administration. Bachelor's degrees only are offered in languages, social science, general studies, science, mathematics, liberal and fine arts, and technology. A master's degree only is offered in interdisciplinary studies. The largest production of semester credit hours in fiscal year 1975 was in teacher education, with graduate work being slightly more than undergraduate. Liberal arts followed closely and was predominantly undergraduate, with business administration (all undergraduate) next. This relation changed for the fall semester of fiscal year 1976 with liberal arts and business administration increasing and teacher education declining proportionately. Also the ratio of undergraduate to graduate in teacher education swung to undergraduate by about two to one.

Off-Campus Activity and Special Programs

Off-campus activities of Texas A&I-Corpus Christi and TEU have been conservative. Several off-campus courses in the Houston area have been approved for UH-Clear Lake City. UT-Permian Basin has been authorized to offer courses in the West Texas area.

All five institutions provide public service and community programs to some degree. UT-Dallas also operates clinical programs in communication disorders funded at approximately $2 million from sources other than state appropriated funds.

The only institution with a large research program is UT-Dallas. Research in physical science and life science projects is funded for approximately $5 million from grants and contracts and about $468,000 from appropriated funds. The other institutions' research activities are limited to individual faculty projects. None except UT-Dallas received appropriations for organized research during the 1975-77 biennium.

Facilities

All five institutions either now have, or are in the process of obtaining, permanent campus facilities. A current facilities inventory is provided in the following table.

Facilities Inventory

Institution	Gross Sq.Ft.*
UT-Dallas	965,256
UT-Permian Basin	448,232
Texas A&I-Corpus Christi	206,645
UH-Clear Lake City	580,006
TEU	269,268

*Sq. ft. based on verbal reports from institutions.

None of the upper-level institutions is authorized to participate in either of the constitutional building funds--the ad valorem tax fund or the Permanent University Fund. The Legislature has appropriated funds for buildings at two of the institutions and has authorized the issuance of tuition revenue bonds to finance construction at the other three upper-level universities.

Source and amounts of these funds are as follows:

	Appropriated	Tuition Revenue Bonds Authorization
UT-Dallas		$32 million
UT-Permian Basin		$15 million
UH-Clear Lake City		$40 million
Texas A&I-Corpus Christi	$15.6 million	
TEU	$15.4 million	

Comparable Educational Resources in the Area

In relating the operation of the upper-level institution to the educational needs of the area it serves, the availability of comparable educational opportunities in the vicinity is important. This includes both the permanent institutions in the area as well as off-campus course offerings by other institutions. Table 5 provides data relative to other public institutions offering junior, senior, and graduate level work in the vicinity of the upper-level institutions.

Table 5

Upper-Level Institution	Senior Institutions Within 50 Miles - Fall 1975 Enrollment		Location and Number of Off-Campus Courses Approved Fall, 1975 For Other Public Institutions	
UT-Dallas	ETSU	9,981	Dallas	154
	NTSU	16,879	Garland	19
	UT-Arlington	16,309	Mesquite	17
	TWU	8,054	Richardson	2
	ACU-Metrocenter	625		
	Bishop College	1,861		
	Dallas Baptist Col.	1,266		
	SMU	9,643		
	Southwestern Union	704		
	TCU	6,018		
	Texas Wesleyan Col.	1,884		
	U. of Dallas	1,708		
UT-Permian Basin	None		Odessa	7
			Midland	31
			Big Spring	20
			Monahans	6
Texas A&I-Corpus Christi	Tx A&I-Kingsville	7,641	Corpus Christi	2
UH-Clear Lake City	TSU	8,167	Houston	73
	UH		Texas City	8
	Main Campus	30,465	Baytown	6
	Downtown	4,301	Galveston	3
	Gulf-Coast Bible	351	Pasadena	9
	Houston Baptist Col.	1,520	La Porte	1
	South Texas Col. Law	938		
	U. of St. Thomas	1,733		
	Wm. M. Rice U.	3,648		
TEU	Jarvis Christian	398	Kilgore	12
	LeTourneau Col.	740	Longview	14
	Texas College	642	Marshall	4

Future Plans by Upper-Level Institutions

Increased growth and expansion is visualized by officials of all of the upper-level activities. At the five separate upper-level institutions this is probably manifested most clearly by the major building programs either in progress or in the planning stages. Over $15 million has been appropriated for construction at both Texas A&I-Corpus Christi and TEU. Based on projected growth and enrollment, both UT-Dallas and UT-Permian Basin are planning additional facilities totaling approximately $28 million. Samples of projected enrollment increase are:

	Headcount Enrollment Projection Fall				
	1976*	1977	1978	1979	1980
UT-Dallas	4,400	5,500	6,400	7,200	8,000
UT-Permian Basin	1,471	2,226	2,493	2,791	3,126
Texas A&I-Corpus Christi	2,500	2,900	3,300	3,700	4,200
UH-Clear Lake City	4,032	4,647	5,139	5,615	---
TEU	1,506	2,200	2,800	3,200	3,700

*Actual preliminary headcount enrollment report, fall, 1976.

Funding Considerations

The upper-level institutions are funded and receive appropriations from the Texas Legislature as individually designated agencies. Appropriations through FY 1977 and institutional operating budgets for FY 1976 are shown in Tables 6 and 7. Table 8 summarizes fall 1975 headcount enrollment and FY 1976 operating budgets for education and general funds.

Table 6
Appropriations by Texas Legislature

Institution*	All Funds Accumulative Through FY 1977	All Funds FY 1976	All Funds FY 1977
UT-Dallas (1970)	$42.3 million	$11,241,597	$13,135,882
UT-Permian Basin (1973)	$23.2 million	4,922,658	5,142,782
Texas A&I-Corpus Christi (1973)	$31.3 million (Includes $15.6 million construction)	13,945,179	8,835,139
UH-Clear Lake City (1974)	$22.2 million	5,541,288	7,551,835
TEU (1973)	$27.2 million (Includes $15.4 million construction)	9,843,888	4,168,314
Total	$177.2 million (Includes $31 million construction)	$45,494,610	$38,833,952

*Year of initial operation

Table 7
Operating Budget FY 1976

	UT-Dallas	UT-Permian Basin	Texas A&I-Corpus Christi	UH-Clear Lake City	TEU
General Administration	$ 1,279,340	$ 441,229	$ 504,000	$ 605,470	$ 408.316
General Institutional	180,714	208,320	120,859	114,364	225,104
Staff Benefits	135,687	53,419	32,580	36,000	24,650
Resident Instruction	6,433,244	2,113,239	2,467,126	3,074,211	1,889,837
Library	545,924	487,217	740,141	610,950	436,149
Organized Research	468,418	-0-	-0-	-0-	3,400
Extension/ Service	62,940	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Physical Plant	2,501,196	1,619,234	665,927	1,051,143	436,415
Special Items* Rehabilitation	-0-	-0-	386,000	73,400	163,308
Total Education and General	11,607,463	4,922,658	4,916,633	5,565,538	3,587,179
Construction	-0-	-0-	9,000,792	-0-	6,277,648
TOTAL	$11,607,463	$ 4,922,568	$13,917,425	$ 5,565,538	$ 9,864,827

*Special Items expenditures is primarily space rental.

Table 8

Upper-Level Institutions	Fall 1975 Headcount Enrollment	FY 76 Operating Budget (Education and General)
UT-Dallas	3,333	$11,607,463
UT-Permian Basin	1,452	$ 4,922,658
Texas A&I-Corpus Christi	1,966	$ 4,916,633
UH-Clear Lake City	2,621	$ 5,565,538
TEU	1,215	$ 3,587,179

Some upper-level institutions have been in operation only a short time, and part of their early operating costs are associated with start-up expenses. In addition, complete semester credit hour data for the current year are not available. Therefore a valid cost per full-time student equivalent cannot be made at this time. Nevertheless, a review of these tables indicates funding disparities and differences in budget allocations among elements of cost. Some of the disparities are explained by the differences in the academic profiles of the institutions. The Coordinating Board formula proposed for the 1977-79 biennium will tend to provide a more equitable distribution of appropriations for operating expenses to similar type institutions. However, the formula has built-in compensation factors which provide minimum funding levels for institutions with small enrollments and a small number of semester credit hours.

Conclusions Regarding Upper-Level Institutions

One reason for the creation of upper-level institutions was that junior college programs in these areas were creating a demand for more space in baccalaureate degree-granting institutions. The capability to provide lower-

division education was therefore present--and appears to remain adequate. Consequently, the necessity to expand the upper-level institutions into four-year programs would over expand state-supported lower division opportunities. The upper-level institutions are still in the development stage, from the standpoints of both academic programs and physical facilities. Some of these institutions are located in areas where a large increase in population is not expected. Therefore, there is no compelling reason to change their status at a time when so many questions regarding their operation and future direction are still unanswered.

Headcount enrollment has been increasing at all five upper-level institutions. However, only UT-Dallas and UH-Clear Lake City are approaching a point where per-student cost, based on fiscal year 1978 formulas, will be in the most cost-effective range. Projections for the Dallas and Houston area are favorable for a continuation of this growth.

At current rates of increase the other institutions are probably at least two to three years away from the 3,000 enrollment level. Nevertheless, there has been a substantial capital outlay for physical plants for all upper-level institutions. A major educational commitment has been made to the communities where upper-level universities were located, and these communities have given sound indication there is a requirement for upper-level education. At each of the three institutions, fall enrollment was over 1,200. At two, Texas A&I-Corpus Christi and TEU, increase in enrollment from the previous year was 22 percent and 39 percent respectively. It appears that business administration and teacher education courses are well supported, and conditions are moderately favorable for a continued need for these courses.

The conditions in the UT-Permian Basin area may not be as favorable for rapid growth as in the areas of other upper-level universities. UT-Permian Basin enrollment increased only 6 percent during the past year. It appears that off-campus upper-level courses offered in the Midland-Odessa area by other institutions may have inhibited somewhat the enrollment growth of UT-Permian Basin, but with the phasing out of off-campus courses in the area, that obstacle to growth has been removed.

UPPER-LEVEL CENTERS*

"Centers"
Texas A&I University at Laredo (Texas A&I-Laredo)
University of Houston Victoria Center (UH-Victoria Center)
East Texas State University Center at Texarkana (ETSU-Texarkana Center)

"Extension Centers"
Pan American University Brownsville Extension Center (PAU-Brownsville Center)
Sul Ross State University Uvalde Extension Center (SRSU-Uvalde Center)

*In this part certain references will distinguish between "centers" and "extension centers" as those terms were used during this study.

Background and Summary

The 61st Texas Legislature, Regular Session in 1969 established an upper-level educational center of Texas A&I University in the city of Laredo. This action was based upon the previous recommendation of the Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System. The Laredo Center, designated as Texas A&I University at Laredo, is the only one of the five upper-level center-type activities which has statutory authority. Enabling legislation (HB 607) provides: "This upper-level educational center may be discontinued by the Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System, at its discretion."

The East Texas State University Center at Texarkana and an upper-level university center at Victoria were approved by the Coordinating Board in February, 1971, acting under authority of an Attorney General opinion of March 31, 1969. The Victoria Center, by Board action of June, 1972, became associated with the University of Houston. The authorization for each of these two centers contains the provision that the center "may be discontinued at the

discretion of the Coordinating Board, if the enrollments in this upper-level institution do not justify its continuance. Justifiable enrollment levels will be established by the Coordinating Board."

In subsequent actions the Coordinating Board in March, 1973, approved upper-level extension programs to be offered by Pan American University for the Brownsville area and by Sul Ross State University for the Uvalde area. Qualification for this approval included provisions that; (1) courses would require prior approval by the Coordinating Board and carry resident credit from the parent institution; (2) administrative services would be delivered by the parent institution; and (3) administrative arrangements would require approval of the Coordinating Board.

A summary of background data for these five upper-level units is provided in Table 1. Details relative to their organization and operation, enrollment and academic programs, facilities, financial activities, and future plans are covered in subsequent sections of this report. Some of the basic characteristics regarding the operation of the upper-level centers and extension centers are:

- All are located on the campus of a two-year college and lease facilities from that college, and (in some cases) in the community.
- They share library facilities with the two-year college; however, administrative arrangements vary from center to center.
- All received appropriations from the Texas Legislature for fiscal years 76 and 77, the three centers as individually designated agencies and the two extension centers as special non-transferable items in the appropriation of the affiliated parent institution.
- They are somewhat geographically isolated, and primarily dependent upon a single two-year college with fall 1975 enrollment of less than 5,000 students as a source of undergraduate students.
- Fall 1975 headcount enrollment ranged from 546 to 1,048.

- Students enrolled in these centers and extension centers are, on the average, enrolled in fewer semester hours of work than students at the five separate upper-level institutions.

- Enrollees are basically part-time commuter students; many are dually enrolled at the on-campus two-year college. The heaviest class schedules are in the late afternoon or evening.

- Teacher education accounts for 45% or more of all semester credit hours offered. A large part of these hours are at the master's level. Liberal arts and business administration are the other major programs offered.

- The two extension centers (Brownsville and Uvalde) operate on annual (FY 76) budgets of approximately $0.7 million and $0.5 million; annual operating budgets for the other three (less construction) range from $1.5 million to $2.3 million.

The conclusions reached in this part are summarized below.

Summary of Conclusions:

The concept of locating upper-level centers on the campuses of public two-year colleges in geographically isolated areas is valid when enrollments justify them.

There is a need for policy guidelines to define the conditions under which centers and other subordinate educational units shall operate. The absence of such definitive policy creates a vacuum which leads to misunderstandings. Under present conditions the trend, in most cases, is for these units to strive for more independence; to expand course offerings, administrative structures, and physical facilities; and to establish de facto conditions which move them closer toward free-standing university status. Such actions, as a rule, do not appear compatible with the original intent of the authority which established these centers, or with present Coordinating Board policy.

UPPER-LEVEL CENTERS AND EXTENSION CENTERS
Table 1

CENTER	AUTHORITY AND DATE	DEGREE LEVEL	FALL HEADCOUNT ENROLLMENT 70	71	72	73	74	75	UNDER-GRAD /GRADUATE FALL 75	SEMESTER CREDIT HOUR AND % BY PROGRAM FY 75
Texas A&I University at Laredo	Legislature 1969 (Coord Board authority to discontinue)	Bachelor Master (#1)	286	456	666	648	758	810	U-grad 47% Grad 53%	Total: 15,219 Liberal Arts 33.9% Teacher Ed 49.8% Business Adm 15.7% Social Serv 0.6%
University of Houston Victoria Center	Coordinating Board 1971	Bachelor Master ** (see below)				358	607	653	U-grad 48% Grad 52%	Total: 10,686 Liberal Arts 32.3% Teacher Ed 47.8% Science 1.3% Fine Arts 1.4% Engineering 1.7% Business Adm 15.5%
East Texas State University Center at Texarkana	Coordinating Board 1971	Bachelor Master ** (see below)			323	535	615	1,048	U-grad 50% Grad 50%	Total: 14,766 Liberal Arts 26.9% Agriculture 0.1% Teacher Ed 46.0% Business Adm 27.0%
Pan American University Brownsville Extension Center	Coordinating Board 1973	Bachelor Master ** (see below)				397	433	546	U-grad 54% Grad 46%	Total: 9,143 Liberal Arts 31.6% Science 1.3% Fine Arts 1.0% Teacher Ed 49.1% Business Adm 17.0%
Sul Ross State University Uvalde Extension Center	Coordinating Board 1973	Bachelor Master ** (see below)				256 (#2)	233 (#2)	606	U-grad 45% Grad 55%	Total: 5,089 (#2) Liberal Arts 15.5% Science 1.4% Fine Arts 0.8% Agriculture 3.3% Teacher Ed 63.8% Business Adm 15.2%

NOTES: (#1) Approved 1973; (#2) Includes Uvalde students only (not Del Rio and Eagle Pass);
** Degrees are awarded by affiliated institution.

Organization and Operation, Upper-Level Centers and Extension Centers

In its current form of organization and operation, Texas A&I University at Laredo comes closest of the centers to being an independent institution. Its president currently reports directly to the acting chancellor, Texas A&I System, on the same level as the other two universities in the system. It is the only center authorized to award degrees in its own name rather than by or in the name of the parent institution. The other centers and extension centers are affiliated with an existing public senior institution. Relations with the next higher authority are shown below.

Line of Authority

Center Location	Title of Chief Administrator	Line of Next Level of Authority
Laredo	President	Acting Chancellor, Texas A&I System
Victoria	Chancellor	President, University of Houston
Texarkana	President	President, East Texas State University
Brownsville	Director	Vice President for Academic Affairs, Pan American University
Uvalde	Director	Vice President, Academic Affairs Dean of Graduate Study, Sul Ross State University

The degree of autonomy in internal administration varies directly with the type of authority which established the center. The administrative structure for the two extension centers is limited and controlled by the Coordinating Board as part of the conditions which established them. Administratively the extension centers are considered by the affiliated universities as another department. They have austere administrative staffs, most of which

consist of faculty released part time. They depend heavily upon the parent university for administrative and logistical support.

The three centers at Laredo, Victoria, and Texarkana have much more latitude in internal administration, and have developed offices for administration and personnel, fiscal affairs, student services, admissions/registration, and library services. Areas involving physical facilities (building and grounds maintenance, student center, bookstore, operation, security, etc.) are normally provided by the two-year institution. In some cases success has been achieved in combining audio-visual support and computer operations. However, as a rule student services and general administrative services are accomplished by the center. At Texarkana and Victoria assistance is obtained from the affiliated senior institution.

Academic affairs are under the immediate supervision of the director at the two extension centers. The other centers utilize an intermediate level, academic deans or directors, to supervise major program areas.

The number of full-time budgeted faculty and staff employees for fiscal year 1976 is:

	FTE STAFF EMPLOYEES	FTE FACULTY (9 MONTHS)
Texas A&I-Laredo	37.0	29.75
UH-Victoria Center	34.9	46.22
ETSU-Texarkana Center	27.5	41.25
PAU-Brownsville Center	11.5	23.00
SRSU-Uvalde Center	3.0*	21.25
Totals	113.9	85.5

*(Includes 1 Library Technician on contract from Junior College)

Enrollment and Academic Programs
Upper-Level Centers and Extension Centers

All of these centers and extension centers are geographically located on campuses of public two-year colleges (Table 2). The sources of the majority of students for the centers and extension centers are the co-located two-year colleges and the resident county or nearby counties (Table 3).

Table 2

Upper-Level Center/ Extension Center	Two-Year College Where Center Is Located	Headcount Enrollment Fall 75	FTE Students in Academic Courses Fall 75	Degrees Awarded FY 75
Texas A&I-Laredo	Laredo Junior College	4,642	1,722	169
UH-Victoria Center*	Victoria Junior College	2,245	1,363	145
ETSU-Texarkana Center	Texarkana Comm. College	3,775	1,679	151
PAU-Brownsville Center	Texas Southmost College	4,352	2,000	174
SRSU-Uvalde Center	Southwest Texas Junior College	2,039	1,213	196

*Wharton County Junior College (Enrollment: 2,443), a distance of 56 miles also supports enrollment at Victoria Center.

Table 3

Upper-Level Center/ Extension Center	Source of Students by County With Percent of Total Center Enrollment, Fall, 1975	
Texas A&I-Laredo	*Webb	92%
	Zapata and Zavala	5%
UH-Victoria Center	*Victoria	50%
	Calhoun, Matagorda, DeWitt	
	Jackson	26%
	Harris, Wharton, Lavaca	
	Goliad	12%
ETSU-Texarkana Center	*Bowie	74%
	Cass	8%
	Harrison, Titus, Morris,	
	Red River	12%
PAU-Brownsville Center	*Cameron, Willacy, Hidalgo	95%**
SRSU-Uvalde Center	*Uvalde, Maverick, Val Verde	84%
	Zapata, Frio, Dimmit,	
	Medina	12%

*Center location
**Estimate - no data available

Headcount enrollment has shown a steady gain at these upper-level centers and extension centers since they became operational, but they still serve fewer than 50,000 students in total. From fall 1974 to fall 1975 enrollment increased 26% at one extension center and 15% at the other. Enrollment increases at the Laredo and Victoria Centers were 6.8% and 7.5%, slightly less than the statewide average for all senior institutions. The Texarkana Center had the most significant enrollment increase, which was about 70%, bringing headcount enrollment to over 1,000.

Students enrolled at the centers and extension centers, on the average, take fewer semester hours of work than the norm for the five upper-level centers or for all senior institutions (Table 4). In general enrollees at the

centers and extension centers are part-time commuting students; many are dually enrolled at the on-campus two-year colleges and others work full time. The heaviest class schedules are in the late afternoon or evening. Graduate students are, on the average, taking less than one half the number of semester credit hours of undergraduate students. Therefore, although the ratio of headcount graduate to undergraduate is approximately 50-50, the ratio of semester credit hours is weighted on the side of undergraduate courses.

Table 4

	Average Semester Credit Hours Per Student, Fall 1975	
	Undergraduate	Graduate
Texas A&I-Laredo	12.11	2.20
UH-Victoria Center	11.54	3.24
ETSU-Texarkana Center	9.27	4.86
PAU-Brownsville Center	10.14	4.26
SRSU-Uvalde Center	9.00	3.90

Academic programs offered at Texas A&I-Laredo lead to the following degrees, which are being awarded in the name of the center:

Bachelor of Arts: English, history, mathematics, political science, psychology, sociology, Spanish
Bachelor of Business Administration
Bachelor of Science: criminal justice, elementary education, and secondary education
Master of Science in Education
Master of Business Administration

In addition, cooperative degree programs are conducted with Texas A&I-Kingsville (Education) and Texas A&I-Corpus Christi (Nursing).

Academic programs offered at the UH-Victoria Center lead to the following degrees, which are awarded by the University of Houston:

Bachelor of Arts: *fine arts, *humanities, *mathematical sciences, *social and behavioral sciences, secondary teacher education (drama, English, history, mathematics, music, political science, psychology, social science, Spanish, speech communication)
Bachelor of Music: secondary teacher education (music)
Bachelor of Science: *business administration (accountancy, agri-business, finance, management, marketing, small business management), education (business, elementary), engineering (chemical, electrical, mechanical), *mathematical sciences, social and behavioral sciences, secondary teacher education (mathematics, political science, psychology, social science)
Master of Arts: psychology
Master of Business Administration
Master of Education: administration and supervision, curriculum and instruction, special education
Master of Science: engineering (chemical, electrical, mechanical), *mathematical sciences

*Only these programs have received formal Coordinating Board approval.

Academic programs offered at the ETSU-Texarkana Center lead to the following degrees, which are awarded by East Texas State University: (Coordinating Board approval will be formally requested.)

Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science: business administration, elementary education, guidance and counseling, health care administration, history, law enforcement, mathematics, political science, sociology, special education, secondary education, social science
Bachelor of Arts in English
Master of Arts and Master of Science: business administration
Master of Science: elementary education, guidance and counseling, secondary education
Master of Education

In addition, a cooperative degree program is conducted with Texas A&M University (Engineering).

Academic programs offered at PAU-Brownsville Center lead to the following degrees, which are awarded by Pan American University: (No formal Coordinating Board approval was given for these programs.)

Bachelor of Arts: English, government, history, sociology, Spanish
Bachelor of Science: elementary education, law enforcement
Bachelor of Business Administration
Master of Arts: English, history, Spanish
Master of Business Administration
Master of Education

Academic programs offered at the SRSU-Uvalde Center lead to the following degrees, which are awarded by Sul Ross State University: (No formal Coordinating Board approval was given for these programs.)

Bachelor of Arts: English, history, Spanish
Bachelor of Science: elementary education, police administration, range animal science
Bachelor of Business Administration
Master of Arts in Political Science
Master of Business Administration
Master of Education

At all of these centers and extension centers teacher education was the largest producer of semester credit hours during fiscal year 1975. In all locations except Laredo there was roughly a 50-50 split between undergraduate and graduate semester credit hours in teacher education courses. At Laredo undergraduate was greater by a 75-25 ratio. Liberal arts and business administration were the only two other program areas which produced a significant number of semester credit hours at all locations. However, science, fine arts, and agriculture each produced credit hours at two or more locations. Only one location, Victoria, produced semester credit hours in engineering.

Comparable Educational Resources in the Area of Upper-Level Centers and Extension Centers

The upper-level centers and extension centers are relatively isolated from senior academic institutions. All are 65 miles or more from an institution offering junior, senior, or graduate level courses. However, a number of off-campus courses are offered in the vicinity by other institutions. A summary of these is provided in Table 5.

Table 5

Area Served by	Off-Campus Courses Offered by	Location	(Spring 76) Number of Courses
UH-Victoria Center	Prairie View A&M	Victoria	2
	TWU	Victoria	1
	Prairie View A&M	Yoakum	2
	SWTSU	Beeville	2
	Texas A&M	Beeville	2
	SWTSU	Hallettsville	3
ETSU - Texarkana Center	Texas A&M (cooperative)	Texarkana	29
PAU-Brownsville Center	Texas A&I - Kingsville	Harlingen	7
	Texas A&I - Kingsville	San Benito	2
SRSU-Uvalde Center	Texas A&I - Kingsville	Del Rio	4
	Texas A&I - Kingsville	Crystal City	10
	Texas A&I - Kingsville	Eagle Pass	2

Off-Campus Activities and Special Programs Upper-Level Centers and Extension Centers

Off-campus courses are offered by the three centers at other cities in their area. Generally these off-campus courses are in the field of teacher education or related subjects. Table 6 shows off-campus courses approved for spring semester 1976.

Table 6

Center	Location of Off-Campus Course and Distance from Center		Number of Courses Approved
Texas A&I-Laredo	Zapata	50 miles	2
UH-Victoria Center	Bay City	74 miles	6
	Beeville	54 miles	13
ETSU-Texarkana Center	Clarksville	61 miles	1
	Daingerfield	64 miles	2
	Marshall	73 miles	13
	Mt. Pleasant	63 miles	4

The SRSU-Uvalde Center, in addition to providing upper-division and graduate programs on the Southwest Texas Junior College campus at Uvalde, also offers programs at Del Rio and Eagle Pass. Enrollment at the three locations is about equal. For administrative purposes the three locations together are considered by the Sul Ross administration as comprising the SRSU-Uvalde Center. However, courses offered away from the Uvalde location require Coordinating Board approval as off-campus courses.

Public service and community programs are limited to a few high-interest activities. These include an Institute for International Trade, and English as a second language at Laredo; assistance to local business and management training for public officials at Texarkana; and specifically designed professional and vocational training courses at Victoria. All five centers and extension centers are oriented toward meeting the needs of local teachers for upgrading of teaching skills. A modest level of research is conducted at all three of the centers. This is primarily associated with internal program development, support of graduate courses, or local interest projects for which grant or contract funding is available.

Facilities
Upper-Level Centers and Extension Centers

Facilities for all centers and extension centers are provided through lease arrangements. Texarkana is the only location where funds have been appropriated for permanent construction dedicated to the center's use. Table 7 provides information on the current manner in which space requirements are met.

Table 7

Center/ Extension Center	Sq. Ft.	Lessor/ Location	Cost	Use
Texas A&I-Laredo	35,088	Laredo Junior College	*$14,035/ month	office, library, classroom
UH-Victoria Center	39,164	Victoria College	*$13,079/ month	office, library, classroom, laboratory
	8,850	City of Victoria	$ 1,833/ month	drama, classroom
ETSU-Texarkana Center	6,420	Texarkana College	*$ 1,926/ month	office, library, classroom
	32,500	Private firm/ off-campus	$ 9,617/ month	office, classroom
PAU-Brownsville Center	10,137	Texas Southmost College	*$ 3,041/ month	office, library, classroom
SRSU-Uvalde Center	8,354	SW Texas Jr. Col.	*$ 3,354/ month	office, library, classroom
	as needed	high school/Del Rio	*$ 2/SCH	classroom
	as needed	high school/Eagle Pass	* none	classroom

* Includes utilities and custodial service.

All of these facilities are leased for a fixed period of time. Expiration date varies, but some must be renegotiated at the end of the current fiscal year. At Uvalde, Southwest Texas Junior College has recently completed construction of a building for use by the Sul Ross Center. This should meet the needs for the foreseeable future. At Texarkana, plans are now underway to construct, with state appropriated funds, a learning resource building for the ETSU upper-level center. This building is located on a three-acre plot of land provided by the Texarkana Community College on its campus. This new facility is expected to be ready for occupancy in the fall of 1977 and, together with the currently leased facilities, should satisfy the upper-level center facility needs. The other three locations are in a somewhat less favorable situation.

Officials of Texas A&I-Laredo identify an immediate requirement for 18,500 additional square feet of building space. They project a continuing need for additional space for library, learning resources and classrooms during the next three years. Laredo Junior College officials indicate that, except for expansion already in progress on the library, no additional existing space is available to offer.

In considering alternatives for meeting the future needs of the Victoria Center, officials there view the present space situation for library, classroom and offices as inadequate. However, Victoria College has repeated its willingness to provide needed facilities.

Because of the rapid growth of Texas Southmost College and the cramped location of the campus in downtown Brownsville, space for use by the

PAU-Brownsville Center is at a premium. The current contract expires in August, 1977.

Shared use of library facilities and services probably represents the best universal cooperative effort between the host two-year college and the upper-level center/extension center. At all locations the two-year college shares its library building. Books, regardless of ownership, are intermixed on the shelves and are available to all students. Administrative arrangements for acquisition, cataloging, circulation and reference service vary. Table 8 provides information pertaining to present library operations.

Table 8

Library Facility Shared By	Number of Volumes		Administrative Arrangements
	Upper-Level	Two-Year College	
Texas A&I - Laredo and Laredo Junior College	37,000	61,500	Common circulation & reference; independent acquisition and processing.
UH-Victoria Center and Victoria College	30,000	30,000	Common circulation & reference; acquisition and processing for center is done at Univ. of Houston main campus.
ETSU - Texarkana Center and Texarkana Community College	20,000	45,000	Common circulation & reference; acquisition and processing for center is done at ETSU main campus.
PAU-Brownsville Center and Texas Southmost College	7,000	78,000	Common circulation & reference; acquisition and processing for extension center is done at Pan American main campus.
SRSU-Uvalde Center and Southwest Texas Junior College	500 on rotation basis	26,000	All services provided by the junior college on a contract basis at $5,000/ month.

Future Plans by Upper-Level Centers and Extension Centers

It is important to note the ambitions of the centers in terms of growth and proposed programs. Officials at all upper-level centers and extension centers foresee increases in enrollment and a continuing need by the community for the educational services provided by their centers. Plans are being made locally to expand programs, facilities, and personnel. Enrollment projections by the centers are:

	Headcount Enrollment Projection Fall				
	1976*	1977	1978	1979	1980
Texas A&I-Laredo	773	980	1,078	1,185	1,303
UH-Victoria Center	755	1,251	1,613	1,920	---
ETSU-Texarkana Center	1,062	1,400	1,510	1,565	1,615
PAU-Brownsville Center**	702	---	---	---	---
SRSU-Uvalde Center**	522	---	---	---	---

*Actual preliminary headcount enrollment report, fall, 1976.
**No projection data available.

Texas A&I - Laredo visualizes a continuing need for the present program offerings with additional programs being instituted when the need of the community is verified. New programs currently being implemented are international trade and business administration. Programs are projected at the master's level in criminal justice, public administration, and general studies. In addition, bilingual education activities are expected to increase.

In order to respond to the requirements for cultural enrichment, elementary and secondary teacher training, and professional and vocational demands of local industry, officials at the Victoria Center anticipate a continuing need

for present programs. Some additional programs have been proposed in American studies, communication arts, humanities, and technology. Also in the planning stage is a master's program in bay and estuarine sciences, which includes a proposed research facility on Matagorda Island.

Officials at the Texarkana Center do not anticipate significant changes in present degree programs with the exception of the addition of a MPA (public administration), a possible nursing degree program, and added emphasis of health service administration, all through the parent campus. The major thrust will be in improved program development, design, and delivery so as to be more responsive to the part-time student. As the budget permits, additional staff would be added for research program evaluation and community-based services.

The Brownsville and Uvalde units anticipate a growing demand during the next three to five years. The major emphasis on teacher education and business administration will continue. However, the PAU-Brownsville Center sees a possible need to expand community services, Mexican-American studies, and some industrial and special business courses.

Funding Considerations for Upper-Level Centers and Extension Centers

The three upper-level centers -- Laredo, Victoria, and Texarkana -- were funded in fiscal 1976 and 1977 by the Texas Legislature as individually designated agencies. However, neither the Brownsville nor the Uvalde Extension Center was funded as individual activities. The Brownsville and Uvalde Extension Centers were each funded within its respective parent university's appropriation, partially by a special subsidy in the form of a non-transferable line item and partially through formula-generated funds.

Appropriations through fiscal 1977 and institutional operating budgets for fiscal 1976 are shown in Tables 9, 10, and 11. Table 12 summarizes fall 1975 headcount enrollment and FY 1976 operating budgets for the upper-level centers.

Table 9

Center/Extension Center	All Funds Appropriated by Texas Legislature Accumulative Through FY 77	FY 1976	FY 1977
Texas A&I-Laredo	$7.4 million	$1,365,814	$1,529,337
UH-Victoria Center	$6.6 million	$2,313,067	$2,608,952
ETSU - Texarkana Center	*$7.9 million	*$4,005,617	$1,900,819
PAU-Brownsville Center	**$3.2 million	**$1,025,752	**$1,103,081
SRSU-Uvalde Center	***$1.1 million	***$ 441,505	***$ 466,950

*Includes $2,150,400 for construction.
**Appropriated to Pan American University through formula and special item for Brownsville Center operation.
***Appropriated to Sul Ross State University through formula and special item for Uvalde Center operation.

Table 10
Upper-Level Centers Operating Budget FY 76

	Texas A&I-Laredo	UH-Victoria Center	ETSU-Texarkana Center
General Administration	$ 232,827	$ 228,956	$ 234,931
General Institutional	62,500	93,233	59,860
Staff Benefits	10,458	14,400	7,650
Resident Instruction	803,676	1,111,140	1,005,817
Library	192,007	687,256	302,051
Organized Research	-0-	9,232	-0-
Physical Plant*	170,270	170,000	240,854
Special Items	6,250	-0-	3,000
Total Education and General	1,477,988	2,314,217	1,854,163
Construction	-0-	-0-	2,150,400
Total	$1,477,988	$2,314,217	$4,004,563

*Primarily lease of facilities

Table 11

Upper-Level Extension Centers Operating Budget FY 76

	PAU-Brownsville Center	SRSU-Uvalde Center
General Administration	$ 45,252	$ 28,812
Faculty Salary	460,440	306,351
Library	122,528	60,000
Other Operating Expense	62,488	52,744
Total	$690,708	$447,907

Table 12

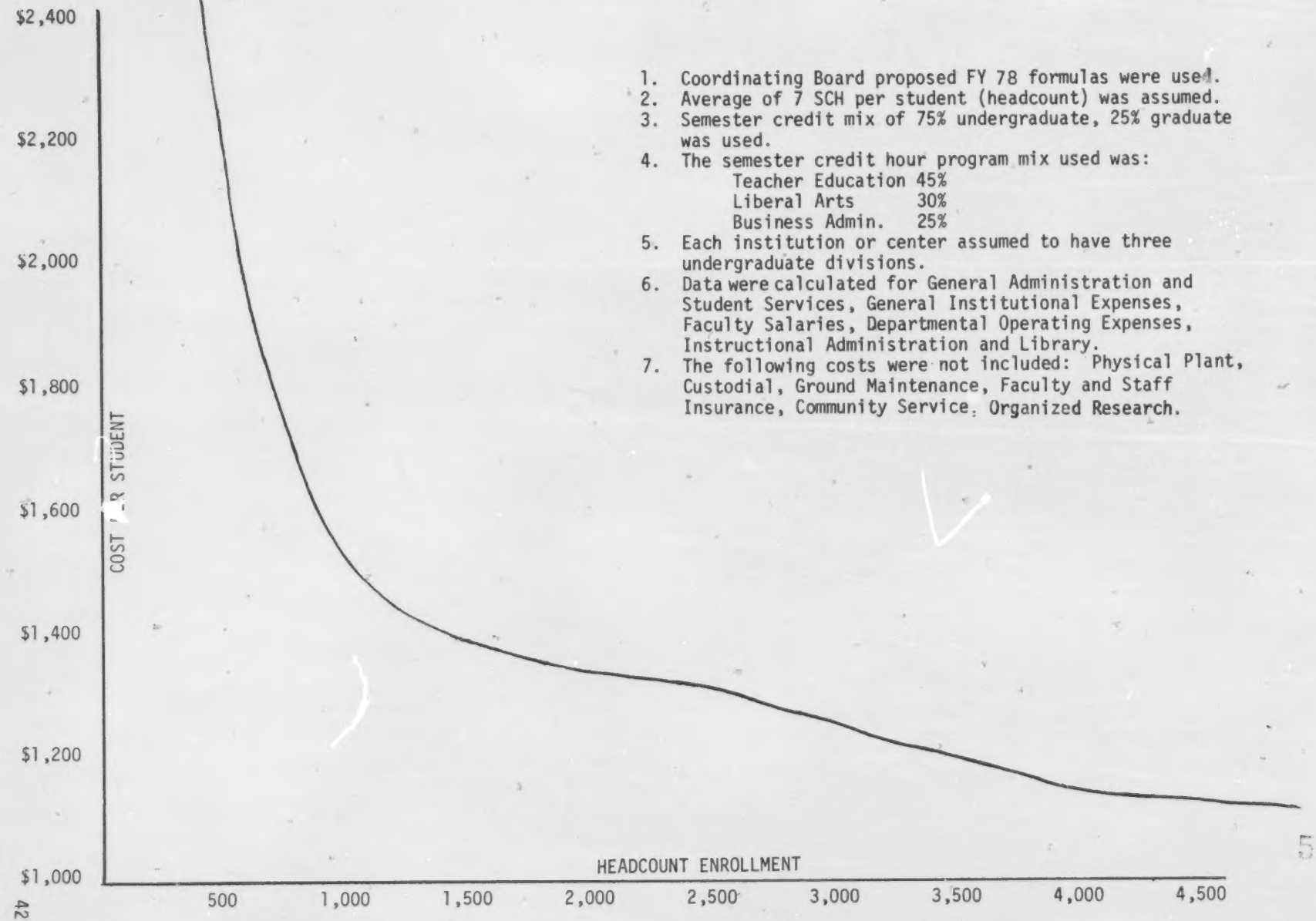
Upper-Level Institutions	Fall 75 Headcount Enrollment	FY 76 Operating Budget Education and General
Upper-Level Centers		
Texas A&I - Laredo	810	$1,477,988
UH-Victoria Center	653	$2,314,217
ETSU - Texarkana Center	1,048	$1,845,163
Upper-Level Extension Centers		
PAU-Brownsville Center	546	$ 690,808
SRSU-Uvalde Center	606	$ 447,907

Assuming that the upper-level centers continue to be funded as individual agencies, they will receive allocations generated by the formula developed for upper-level institutions for the 1977-79 biennium. This formula has built-in compensation factors for small institutions to provide for minimum appropriations when enrollment or semester credit hours are below a certain level.

Figure 1 shows a per-student cost curve for various levels of enrollment for a model upper-level activity using the 1977-79 biennium formula. This curve illustrates that there are definite break-points (at around 1,500 and 4,000 enrollment) where per-student costs tend to change significantly. At enrollments less than 1,500 cost rises much more rapidly than for enrollments between 1,500 to 4,000. At enrollments above 4,000 there is a general leveling-off trend.

These cost calculations in Figure 1 do not include physical plant operation, facilities lease, or staff benefits. Consequently, they do not represent total cost for an upper-level unit.

UPPER-LEVEL PER-STUDENT COSTS



1. Coordinating Board proposed FY 78 formulas were used.
2. Average of 7 SCH per student (headcount) was assumed.
3. Semester credit mix of 75% undergraduate, 25% graduate was used.
4. The semester credit hour program mix used was:
   - Teacher Education 45%
   - Liberal Arts 30%
   - Business Admin. 25%
5. Each institution or center assumed to have three undergraduate divisions.
6. Data were calculated for General Administration and Student Services, General Institutional Expenses, Faculty Salaries, Departmental Operating Expenses, Instructional Administration and Library.
7. The following costs were not included: Physical Plant, Custodial, Ground Maintenance, Faculty and Staff Insurance, Community Service, Organized Research.

Conclusions

In general the concept of a center-type activity, detached from a parent institution, in order to provide educational opportunities in a specific geographical area, is valid. This is especially evident in the case of an upper-level center providing direct support to students graduating from a companion two-year college. In addition to support of the two-year area colleges, however, two other educational obligations are being undertaken by most of the centers: meeting the needs of area government, schools, business, and industry for trained personnel, and fulfilling cultural and academic desires of the area population. If obligations and constraints are not clearly defined, these commitments can create many avenues for expansion which may not be justified. It is apparent that the major areas of educational program demand have been in business administration, teacher education, and those supporting liberal arts courses. Nevertheless, there seems to be a tendency toward a future proliferation of courses in other program areas. In addition, there appears to be a need for minimum criteria to justify the establishment of such centers in the future.

In some cases it would appear that in the view of the centers and their parent institutions, the term "center" may not be the preferred designation. "Center" implies administrative subordination to a higher level institution and restrictions on courses, programs and degree-granting authority.

The term "university" implies neither of these. Consequently, there is an interest in some cases to discard the term "center" in favor of the more permanent designation, and take those actions regarding administrative structuring and authority which would support the "university" designation.

The costs associated with fulfilling the upper-level center concept can vary considerably and are direct functions of the degree of autonomy and type of administrative structure adopted by the center. Per-student cost is higher if centers are authorized independent staffs and are funded as individual agencies than if the centers operate as an administrative unit within the structure of a parent institution. This is not only true under the present method of funding, but will also be the case when the 1977-1979 biennium formula is effective for upper-level institutions.

The need for more space (for offices, classrooms, work areas and conferences) is a major problem recognized by all three upper-level centers and one of the extension centers. Sharing space with the two-year college on its campus through a contract arrangement seems to have worked well in the past. However, because of projected requirements most centers now consider this situation unacceptable. Future growth will determine whether these concerns are justified.

The decision on physical facilities cannot be separated from the general question of the viability of a center and its role at a given location. All five center-type operations can be discontinued if enrollment levels no longer justify their existence. Therefore, funding and ownership of buildings is a major factor in policy decisions. The manner in which facilities are provided could either place constraints on future operations or open the way to more autonomy and permanency, thereby closing options the state should keep open.

The policy of the Coordinating Board as stated in the January, 1975 restudy, Texas Higher Education, 1968-80, is that "no new public senior or upper-level colleges or universities or professional schools be authorized."

Notwithstanding this policy, the center-type activities are establishing de facto conditions which will enhance permanency and independent operation. This is not to say that these actions are improper under current Coordinating Board policy. However, it does point out the importance of defining terminology, eliminating inconsistencies in policy, and clarifying rules under which the centers should be expected to operate.

OFF-CAMPUS EDUCATIONAL SUBDIVISIONS

Texas Tech University Junction Annex (TTU-Junction Annex)
Lamar University Orange Center (Lamar U.-Orange Center)
Lamar University Port Arthur Center (Lamar U.-Port Arthur Center)
Lamar University Amelia Campus (Lamar U.-Amelia Campus)
North Texas State University Dallas Facility (NTSU-Dallas Facility)
East Texas State University Metroplex (Dallas) Center (ETSU-Metroplex Center)

In addition to the upper-level centers, other off-campus educational subdivisions are presently operated as subordinate educational units of state universities. The background, purpose, and type of students served by these educational activities differ. Nevertheless, future decisions regarding their administration, academic programs, and financing will be of a similar nature. Consequently this report groups together subordinate educational units operated by Texas Tech University, Lamar University, North Texas State University, and East Texas State University. Table 1 provides some comparative data on three of these units. All are discussed in more detail further in this part.

Background and Summary

In 1971 the Texas 62nd Legislature transferred the Junction Annex Operation in Kimble County, formerly operated by Texas A&M University, to Texas Tech University. This annex is currently utilized to offer a limited number of field courses, primarily in fine arts, education, and science at the junior, senior, and graduate level. It also serves as a conference and seminary facility for educational activities sponsored by state agencies, schools, certain professional associations, and educationally oriented associations. The normal pattern

of operation is to offer academic courses for credit during the summer months only. Adult and continuing education programs are conducted during the fall and spring.

The 62nd Legislature also authorized the establishment, in 1971, of "an educational center of Lamar University in the counties of Jefferson and Orange . . . to accept freshman and sophomore level students only." The Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System was given discontinuance authority at its discretion. Based on this legislation, Lamar University established a lower division center in the city of Orange in 1971. Initial enrollment at the Orange Center was 339 students. There has been a steady increase in enrollment each year, with the largest increase to date, 16.4 percent, occurring between the fall semesters of 1974 and 1975. Students commute to and from the center.

The Lamar U.-Port Arthur Center was established under the same authority as the Orange Center, but did not become operational until the fall of 1975. This was made possible by the transfer of the facilities of the Port Arthur College to Lamar University at no cost. Initial enrollment was 388. Enrollment at both Orange and Port Arthur Centers is predominantly freshman students. Liberal arts and vocational training account for all semester credit hours at Port Arthur and the majority of the semester credit hours at the Orange Center. Students commute to and from the center.

Lamar University also acquired, at no cost, from The Sun Oil Company, the buildings and grounds which that company had previously used as a geophysics laboratory. In 1975 this facility began operation and is known as the Amelia Campus of Lamar University. No state authorization to accept the facility for use as a campus was obtained.

During the past year, both North Texas State University and East Texas State University have independently leased facilities in Dallas to use as a central area for off-campus course offerings. Each facility is staffed by permanently assigned personnel. Courses offered are predominantly at the graduate level; teaching is done by faculty from the main campus.

OFF-CAMPUS EDUCATIONAL SUBDIVISIONS

Table 1

ACTIVITY	AUTHORITY AND DATE	PROGRAM LEVEL	HEADCOUNT ENROLLMENT 71	72	73	74	75	ENROLLMENT BY LEVEL 75	SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS AND % BY PROGRAMS 75	
Lamar U.-Orange Center	Legislature 1971	Freshman Sophomore Associate Degrees Awarded by Lamar U.	339	362	409	415	483	Freshman -74% Sophomore-18% Others - 8%	Total: 5,165 Liberal Arts Science Business Adm Fine Arts Vocational Tng Nursing Others	53.0% 9.1% 2.7% 2.4% 23.9% 6.5% 2.4%
			(all figures are for fall enrollment)							
Lamar U.-Port Arthur Center	Legislature 1971 (established 1975)	Freshman Sophomore Associate Degrees Awarded by Lamar U.					388	Freshman -95% Sophomore- 4% Others - 1%	Total: 4,430 Liberal Arts Vocational Tng	17.1% 82.9%
			(fall enrollment)							
TTU-Junction Annex	Legislature 1971 (transferred from Texas A&M)	Extension of Texas Tech Programs		58	149	196	251	U-grad -61% Graduate -39%	Total: 759 Education Science Fine Arts Physical Ed	17.0% 51.0% 27.0% 5.0%
			(all figures are for summer enrollment in academic courses)							

Texas Tech University Junction Annex

The TTU-Junction Annex consists of a 441-acre tract of land and buildings to support administration, educational activities, and living accommodations. It is located in a natural setting and used on a limited basis for special types of academic programs and a more expanded basis for conferences and seminars. The overall director is in residence and is responsible to the executive vice president, Texas Tech University. The academic director is permanently located at the Texas Tech Lubbock campus but spends part of his time at the annex. The academic director is responsible to the vice president for academic affairs, Texas Tech University. Permanent staff at the annex consists of the director, plant supervisor, one clerical, and maintenance/custodial workers, a total of five employees full time with three additional part-time workers during the summer. The academic director and one secretary, both located in Lubbock, are each charged to the center at the rate of 50 percent of full time. No faculty members are permanently assigned to the center. Regular faculty from Texas Tech go there on a temporary basis to teach specific courses.

Academic courses are taught at the annex during the summer months only. Courses are offered during three sessions: an intersession in May and two regular summer sessions. Current offerings include graduate art, botany, education, entomology, geography, music recreation, zoology, range and wildlife management, English (creative writing), German, and philosophy. Courses are offered at junior and senior and graduate level. All courses offered at the annex are from the Texas Tech University catalog; most of them are offered at the Junction Annex in order to take advantage of the environment which is conducive to field activity and creative work, although some clearly cannot be justified on this basis. During the summer of 1975, 251 students attended these courses.

Many of the students are from out of state. Students live at the annex while taking courses. Currently, enrollment in the first session alone is 302 students.

During the winter months the annex is available to organizations and groups, on a fee basis, for adult education programs, conferences and seminars. During the previous year the annex was utilized by the Texas Law Enforcement Commission, Texas Education Agency, Texas Water Quality Board, the Office of the Attorney General, and the Texas Industrial Commission. In addition local civic groups, high schools, local governmental agencies, and some institutions of higher education held various activities at the annex. A total of nearly 5,000 persons utilized the facilities at the annex during fiscal year 1975.

Funding is provided by a special item in the Texas Tech University appropriation. For the current biennium this is:

FY 1976: $277,000
FY 1977: $189,390

The operating budget for the annex for fiscal year 1976 is:

Center Operation	
Personnel	$ 59,971
Travel	4,000
Capital Outlay	2,000
Renovation	165,277
Maintenance/Operation	16,950
	$248,198
Academic Program	
Staff and Administration	$ 28,802
Faculty Salaries	$ 44,000

Officials of Texas Tech University do not see any major changes in the role of the Junction Annex with the exception of a greater emphasis on graduate work and less emphasis on community activity. There are no plans to expand this facility into either a full-time academic center for either lower-division or upper-level work.

Lamar University, Orange Center

Lamar University, Port Arthur Center

Lamar University operates the lower division educational centers at both Orange and Port Arthur as branch campuses. They serve functions as feeder activities to the main campus in Beaumont by providing another source for freshman and sophomore courses, and as centers to provide vocational and technical programs. The chief administrative officer at each center is a dean who is on the same organizational level as the deans of the nine colleges on the main campus. The deans report to the vice president for academic affairs, Lamar University. Administrative services for the centers are provided from the Beaumont campus. Each center has a small administrative staff which consists of the dean, clerical, administrative/counselor/testing and custodial/maintenance personnel. The academic faculty is directly responsible to the dean. The number of full-time budgeted staff and faculty employees for fiscal year 1976 for each center is:

	FTE Staff*	FTE Faculty
Orange Center	6.35	10.5
Port Arthur Center	9.75	10.5

*Includes one records/admissions clerk for each center who is located at the Beaumont campus.

Both centers offer liberal arts and vocational training courses as their main programs. In addition the Orange Center offers courses in science, fine arts, social service, physical training, nursing, and business administration. Courses are at the freshman and sophomore level only. In the fall semester 1975, 483 students at the Orange Center and 388 students at the Port Arthur Center were enrolled in these courses. The average semester credit hours (SCH) per student was:

	Average SCH/Student
Orange Center	10.7
Port Arthur Center	11.4

(State average for all senior institutions undergraduate students was 13.6.)

Enrollment at both institutions is comprised primarily of freshman students with the remainder being sophomores, except for an occasional student with higher standing from Lamar University who is taking a lower division course.

Neither center awards degrees, although both offer courses in vocational training programs leading to associate degrees which are awarded by Lamar University. These are:

Associate Degree Program	Offered By Orange Center	Port Arthur Center
Welding	Yes	Yes
Mid-Management	Yes	---
Drafting Technology	Yes	Yes
Office Occupations	Avail. Fall 76	Yes
Automotive Mechanics	---	Yes
Electronics Technology	---	Yes

In addition, diplomas are awarded by the centers for the completion of certain vocational courses. Non-vocational training courses receive credit from Lamar University, and in this regard the centers are only feeder campuses for the bachelor's degree programs offered at the Beaumont campus.

Both centers occupy facilities which have been donated to Lamar University. The statute authorizing these centers specifically provides that facilities will be provided "at no cost to the State of Texas." Facilities at the Orange Center consist of a building in downtown Orange and several buildings at the inactive U.S. Navy base about five blocks away. Title on some of the Navy base buildings is not final but is expected soon. Total useable space will be approximately

88,000 square feet with about 25 acres of land. Facilities at the Port Arthur Center consist of three buildings (formerly occupied by Port Arthur College) and a church. Total useable space consists of approximately 65,000 square feet with about four-and-a-half acres of land. Physical facilities at both centers are considered adequate to meet needs for the foreseeable future, but some renovation will be necessary. Library service for students at both centers is provided through arrangements with the local public libraries.

Both centers have been funded by the Texas Legislature through special items in the appropriations to Lamar University as follows:

	71-73 Biennium	73-75 Biennium	75-77 Biennium
Orange Center	$250,000	$420,748	$785,044
Port Arthur Center	-0-	-0-	$600,000

The operating budgets for fiscal year 1976-77 were:

	Orange Center	Port Arthur Center
Administration	$ 17,040	$ 36,272
Classified Salaries	56,630	52,084
Faculty Salaries	247,684	155,254
Maintenance & Operation	28,352	19,566
Travel	2,800	0
Capital Outlay	19,307	0
OASI	64	64
Computer Service	10,000	10,000
Books	3,000	3,000
Utilities	22,000	23,760
Total	$406,877	$300,000

While no funds have been expended for acquisition of facilities, student building use fees have been allocated to the Orange Center by Lamar University and used for major repair and rehabilitation of buildings. Plans are to use this same procedure for necessary rehabilitation at the Port Arthur Center in the future.

Lamar University anticipates no changes in the role and missions of the two centers at Orange and Port Arthur. They are expected to continue to provide freshman and sophomore academic courses as feeder programs to the Beaumont campus, to offer vocational training programs leading to associate degrees awarded by Lamar University and provide training in some technical areas leading to diplomas issued by the centers. The mix of programs at both centers is expected to change gradually, however. At present the Orange Center is weighted toward academic courses and the Port Arthur Center heavily oriented toward vocational training. It is anticipated that the mix between academic and vocational training courses will level off at a mix of about 50-50 at each center. This trend will begin with the fall 1976 offerings. Enrollment at both centers is expected to continue to increase gradually. Officials foresee that enrollments could reach 1,500 to 2,000 at each center in the next eight to ten years.

In summary, both the Orange and Port Arthur Centers are, in effect, community junior colleges serving as branch campuses to the main Lamar University campus at Beaumont and fully supported by the State. Administratively they are treated in the same manner as the academic units which are subdivisions of the university. There are no indications that these conditions are expected to change.

Lamar University, Amelia Campus

The Amelia facility, located on Highway 90 east of Beaumont, is also operated by Lamar University as a branch campus. Its primary purpose is a facility for adult continuing education courses. Some vocational training courses are also taught at this location. During the spring semester (1976) 122 students (full time equivalent) attended these courses. No academic

courses are offered. There is no separate budget for this activity, nor is there any permanent staff. Lamar University is considering using state funds (student fees) to renovate these facilities for expanded vocational training use but does not plan to offer academic courses at this location.

Off-Campus Facilities in Dallas

Both North Texas State University and East Texas State University operate facilities in the city of Dallas for the purpose of offering off-campus courses with resident credit at their respective institutions.

Beginning in July, 1975, North Texas State University leased the space which was formerly operated by Southern Methodist University for evening classes in downtown Dallas. The lease is for one year with a renewable option. A director and a secretary are permanently assigned to this location to coordinate off-campus facilities use. Faculty for these courses are supplied by permanent faculty members from the Denton campus. For the spring semester 1976 North Texas State University had approval to offer 52 upper-level and graduate courses in Dallas. These courses were in the areas of political science, art, English, business, economics, library science, and education. North Texas State University reports that for the base period summer 1975, fall 1975, and spring 1976 a total of 15,863 semester credit hours were generated at the Dallas Facility as follows:

Program Area	Semester Credit Hours
Liberal Arts	3,234
Science	51
Fine Arts	21
Teacher Education	11,076
Library Science	486
Physical Training	2
Business Administration	993
Total	15,863

Graduate level courses (master's and doctoral) accounted for 94.6% of the total semester credit hours. NTSU estimates that semester credit hours will increase to approximately 16,500 during the next base period. Program mix and graduate to undergraduate ratio will remain about the same. The operating budget for the Dallas Facility for fiscal year 1977 is:

Staff Salaries (director and secretary)	$ 19,833
Other wages	10,654
Travel	1,000
Maintenance and Operation	270,013
Equipment	1,200
Total	$320,700

The appropriations request of North Texas State University for the next biennium includes funds for the Dallas Facility in the amounts of $305,600 for fiscal year 1978 and $306,050 for fiscal year 1979. These funds are included under the category of Extension and Public Service.

East Texas State University is authorized by the Legislative Appropriations Act for the 1975-1977 biennium to use bond proceeds and other available moneys "to acquire, construct, alter, add to, repair, rehabilitate, equip and/or furnish ... (a) Commuter Program Center." In the spring of 1976 East Texas State University leased approximately 5,000 square feet of space for classrooms and offices for the use of ETSU-Metroplex Center. A coordinator and an assistant coordinator are located at this center. Faculty are provided from East Texas State University on a rotational basis. The center is designed to offer students in the Dallas area a complete educational package including testing, orientation and community service activity. Courses offered are primarily on the graduate level and cover such areas as education, business, chemistry, computer science and health care administration. During the spring semester 1976 ETSU offered

66 courses in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. These courses generated approximately 4,500 semester credit hours. Teacher education accounted for 37%, business administration 24%, liberal arts 21%, and science and technology the remaining 18%. The majority (over 80%) of these courses were at the graduate level. Not all of these courses are taught at the ETSU-Metroplex Center. In fact, to date 38 courses are scheduled for the center. Courses will also be offered in other parts of the Dallas-Fort Worth area for the convenience of working students. However, the center will serve as a centralized location for information and counseling. In the East Texas State University operating budget for fiscal year 1977 the Metroplex Center is budgeted within the overall category of Resident Instruction-Instructional Administration as follows:

Salaries	$35,735
Operating Expenses	5,720

The cost of leasing facilities is not included in these figures. The ETSU appropriations request for fiscal years 1978 and 1979 does not contain a specific allocation for, nor mention of, the Metroplex Center.

Other Locations for Off-Campus Instruction

Several universities conduct operations at remote locations, in most cases with statutory authority, for special purposes related to their role and scope. Such operations include the extension/research centers of Texas A&M University, the nursing and allied health centers of Texas Woman's University and Prairie View A&M University, the Weslaco Center of Texas A&I University at Kingsville, and the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine of North Texas State University.

It is understood that these operations are integral parts of the respective universities and that the mission of each will be clearly stated as a part of

the role and scope of the parent university. Any change in mission at the remote locations must be treated as a modification in role and scope affecting the parent.

Off-campus credit courses of a general nature offered at one of the locations described in this section, not directly related to the special purpose mission of that location, must be considered as "off-campus" courses and will be subject to Coordinating Board approval in accordance with Rules and Regulations 251.02.12.

Any change of status of the operations in these special purpose, off-campus locations must be approved in accordance with Coordinating Board rules and criteria on upper-level centers.

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON
DOWNTOWN COLLEGE

The University of Houston Downtown College was established without enabling action by either the Texas Legislature or the Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System. The University of Houston began offering off-campus instruction in Houston's central business district in 1934. When the lease on those facilities expired in early 1974, course offerings were temporarily suspended. Later the same year the University of Houston, using funds on hand, acquired the properties of the privately supported South Texas Junior College. The college began operation as an off-campus center of the University of Houston in the fall of 1974 with an enrollment of 3,537 undergraduate students. In April, 1975, the Coordinating Board approved a request from the University of Houston to establish an administrative structure and approved a bachelor of science degree program in criminal justice for the Downtown activity. On July 7, 1975, the University of Houston Board of Regents approved the Downtown College as a separate operational unit to enable "the college to pursue its own accreditation." Headcount enrollment increased by 21.6%, reaching 4,301 for the fall semester of 1975. Only freshmen and sophomores were enrolled in 1974. However, the fall 1975 enrollment included 393 upper division students. In the spring of 1976, 32 baccalaureate degrees earned at the Downtown College were conferred in a separate ceremony. Table 1 displays selected data on the University of Houston Downtown College.

The chancellor of the Downtown College is the chief administrative officer, reporting directly to the president of the University of Houston. The college has an administrative structure supervised by a dean of the college, dean of student services and business manager, each of whom reports to the vice chancellor. The

college is administratively independent in all areas except business (accounting, inventory control, auditing) and computer services. These functions are provided from the central campus. Academic programs are administered through six divisions and one program. These are Division of Behavorial Science, Division of Business Administration, Division of Arts and Humanities, Division of Mathematics, Division of Social Sciences, Division of Science, and Program in Criminal Justice. The number of full-time budgeted staff and faculty employees for fiscal year 1976 is: Staff - 59, Faculty - 113.88.

The University of Houston administration considers the Downtown College as a separate operational unit, "subject to overall coordination by the university and separate accreditations by the Southern Association." The college is a commuter college and follows an open admissions policy. Harris County is the primary source of students, accounting for 79% in the fall of 1975 with an enrollment of 4,301. Foreign students accounted for 16% of this enrollment.

The college's course inventory is comprised primarily of lower-division courses. On the average, students were taking 10.5 semester credit hours during the fall 1975 semester. The average for undergraduate students in all Texas public senior institutions was 13.6. A large percentage of the classes are taught in the evening.

The only degree programs currently approved for the University of Houston Downtown College are a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Criminal Justice and three associate degrees (arts, arts in criminal justice, and science). The associate degrees were approved by the Coordinating Board with the stipulation that they were to terminate at the end of the summer session of the 1978-79 school year, in order to fulfill obligations to students of the former junior college. Degree proposals have been submitted to the Coordinating Board for

three bachelor of science programs (business technology, business services technology and engineering technology). However, it does not appear under the Attorney General's opinion of March 31, 1969, that the Coordinating Board has the authority to grant degree-granting status to an educational unit not created by the Legislature. Therefore, all degrees will have to be awarded by and in the name of the parent institution, the University of Houston.

The Downtown College occupies facilities at One Main Plaza in the downtown section of Houston. Total assignable space in this facility is 613,000 square feet. At present, the amount of assignable space occupied by the Downtown College is 152,993 square feet. As shown in the University of Houston Financial Report, the amount of funds invested in this facility (through August 31, 1975) was:

Land	$1,058,930
Building	4,533,143
Improvements Other Than Building	9,641
Equipment	541,968
Total	$6,163,682

Federal funds in the amount of $194,500, originally awarded to South Texas Junior College for library rehabilitation, have been transferred to the Downtown College. These funds, with equal matching from the college, will be used in the immediate future for expansion of the existing library.

The Downtown College is funded through state appropriations provided to the University of Houston. No direct appropriations have been made to the college by the Texas Legislature. The Legislative Appropriations Act for the 1975-1977 biennium authorizes the University of Houston to "expand bond proceeds and funds available" for " acquisition, equipping and modernization of downtown campus buildings and parking facilities and construction at such campus."

The college's operating budget for fiscal year 1976 is:

General Administration	$ 573,666
General Institutional	166,658
Resident Instruction	1,689,845
Library	128,427
Physical Plant	381,594
Total	$2,940,190

A substantial enrollment increase is projected by the college. Fall 1976 headcount enrollment is expected to be 5,000. Enrollment is seen as reaching over 12,500 by 1979. At the same time the average student load is expected to increase to 12.0 or more semester credit hours. It is anticipated that a large number of students will be attracted to baccalaureate offerings, especially in such fields as technology and criminal justice. The college estimates that it will award 488 bachelor's degrees in 1979-80. In anticipation of this student demand, 11 new bachelor's degree programs are being planned. These are in the fields of technology, physical science, social science, administration, nursing, humanities and general studies. In addition, consideration is being given by the University of Houston to transfer the bachelor's degree program in business technology from the central campus to be offered exclusively at the Downtown College. This now involves 800 students and 11 faculty. The college projects administrative changes related to these changes in degree offerings and student profile; a dean of technical studies and a director of continuing education and urban extension will probably be added.

Physical space requirements to meet this anticipated expansion in enrollment, programs and staff are not expected to present a problem. Expansion will be possible through non-renewal of existing commercial leases in the facilities now occupied. Renovations for which state funds will be requested will be required to adapt the vacant space for educational purposes.

In summary, the University of Houston's downtown educational activities began as off-campus course offerings (prior to 1974) then took the form of an off-campus center with permanent facilities, and have now developed into an increasingly separate college approved by the Board of Regents. It is now in the process of obtaining Southern Association accreditation and expects to receive approval prior to the end of the next academic year. The college is visualized by the University of Houston as providing pre-professional career-oriented education to serve the downtown area and also preparing lower-division students for transfer to four-year institutions. While prior approval for this activity was never given by the Texas Legislature, subsequent actions by the Coordinating Board, which approved an administrative structure and degree programs, have, in effect, provided official recognition.

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON
DOWNTOWN COLLEGE

Table 1

ACTIVITY	AUTHORITY AND DATE	PROGRAM LEVEL	HEADCOUNT ENROLLMENT 71	72	73	74	75	ENROLLMENT BY LEVEL 75	SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS AND % BY PROGRAMS 75
University of Houston Downtown College	U of Houston Board of Regents 1975 (established as center - 1974)	Associate and Bachelor's (authority for the College to award degrees in process)	(all figures are for fall enrollment)			3,537	4,301	Freshman -66% Sophomore-25% Junior -09%	Total: 45,173 Liberal Arts 73.9% Science 11.5% Business Adm. 10.4% Fine Arts 2.1% Engineering 1.7% Home Economics 0.4%